

The acclaim for that production convinced her to take the plunge and in 1976 start her own business, along with a close friend, who later would become her husband. Thus was born Quicksilver Associates, Incorporated.

Diane's work experience taught her that there was a real need for creative outsource corporate audiovisual support. With this in mind, she started calling on corporate 500 companies, such as Quaker Oats, CBS, and International Harvester. As a pioneer of smears, zooms, starbursts, and other new and innovative graphic techniques, Quicksilver provided corporate customers with the creativity needed to customize their own business presentations. In 1978, Quicksilver won an International CLIO Finalist Award for its promotional piece on International Harvester's Scout, a sports utility vehicle apparently ahead of its time.

As a premier audiovisual production studio, Quicksilver employs approximately 30 people within its four divisions, New Media, Video Production, Meeting Production, and Planning and Creative Services, generates sales of approximately \$4.5 million annually, and hosts a "who's who" of corporate clients that include ABN/AMRO, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Household International, and United Airlines.

As a founding member and former President of the Make a Wish Foundation of northern Illinois, Diane received the first Fountain of Hope Award and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Make a Wish Foundation of America. Diane and Quicksilver also have offered their talents and resources to help other nonprofit organizations throughout the year.

So, Mr. Speaker, I am indeed proud to bring to the attention of America Diane's achievements, for it is an example of how small businesses can achieve in America. Small businesses account for 99.7 percent of America's employers. They played a vital role in helping to bring America out of this economic downturn. To help create and ensure America's small businesses continue to survive, we must engage all available resources in facilitating entrepreneurship development, providing low or no interest loans and more technical assistance to programs for small businesses.

So, again, I congratulate Ms. Diane MacWilliams, President of Quicksilver Associates in Chicago, for being our State's Small Business Person of the Year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on May 7, 2002, I was unavoidably absent due to the primary election in my district. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 127 and 128.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOYER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.

WELFARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues the plight of the U.S. offshore Territories as it relates to welfare reform and the reauthorization process currently being undertaken in the House.

Mr. Speaker, although the U.S. Territories, Guam, Puerto Rico, and my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands, are required to meet all the TANF requirements, they do not have access to all of the tools that other jurisdictions have to successfully move people from welfare to work.

Mr. Speaker, the Territories are island jurisdictions, where the ability to move from one jurisdiction to another in search of work is just impossible. As a consequence, in the Virgin Islands, while our welfare rolls have been lowered, we have failed to meet the work participation rates. Despite the fact there was no work to send the many willing participants to, we have been penalized by fines.

This in itself is unfair, given our special circumstances, but also consider the fact that we do not receive several other sources of funds that States have at their disposal to overcome similar obstacles. We get no supplemental grant funds, even though our average dollars per person are extremely low; and we do not receive contingency funds, even though we have experienced economic downturns and high unemployment.

That is why the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) and I have joined the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ) in sponsoring H.R. 4236 to bring parity to the U.S. Territories as they seek to move their citizens from welfare to work.

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We will be seeking to have this included in a substitute bill. H.R. 4236 would include Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands in the TANF supplemental grants for population increases and exclude this funding from the section 1108 cap.

TANF supplemental grants are specifically intended to assist States, and it should be territories also, with higher than average growth rates and/or lower than average welfare funding per poor person. The latter characterizes my district.

It would also include Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands in the TANF contingency fund, and also exclude this funding from the section

1108 cap. The TANF contingency fund was intended to assist localities in times of economic downturns when the need for family assistance is greater, evidenced either by significantly higher unemployment rates, or significant increases in the utilization of food stamps. Both are operative in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and currently the TANF contingency fund excludes the Territories.

H.R. 4236 would also provide Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands access to all of the funding streams under the Child Care Development Block Grant and the matching grant, while excluding this from the section 1108 cap. These Territories receive CCDF funding under the general block grant discretionary funds. However, they are not authorized to receive funding under 2 subprograms under entitlement grants, the mandatory and matching funds. Provisions to authorize these two funds could provide up to \$70 million for child care if matching funds requirements were met.

Another area, title IV-E foster care, we would like to take that out of the section 1108 cap as well. Title IV-E foster care is included in the section 1108 cap. As a result, abused and neglected children in foster care services compete for Federal funds with needy families on TANF, poor seniors, and blind and disabled individuals. This is compounded by the fact that Medicaid is also under a cap.

We would ask in this bill that the Territories be reimbursed for providing transitional medical assistance to TANF leavers outside of the current Medicaid cap. States receive reimbursement for the medical cost of TANF recipients while they move into work. Currently the Territories are not authorized to participate in this element of Medicaid, and even if they were, because of the Medicaid cap, the Territories would not be allowed to receive any reimbursement for these costs.

If the Territories are expected to meet the same work requirements as the States, it is essential that they be authorized access to receiving similar Medicaid reimbursements for their TANF recipients.

Mr. Speaker, I come before this body because it is important that all of our colleagues understand the unique plight of the Territories. We want to help our constituents make the step from welfare to work. More than that, we want to give them a hand up and out of poverty. I hope that when these issues are before this body, we will have the support of our colleagues to give the Territories parity in the effort to reauthorize welfare reform and to give us the tools to make welfare reform a real success in our districts.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BROWN of South Carolina). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.